



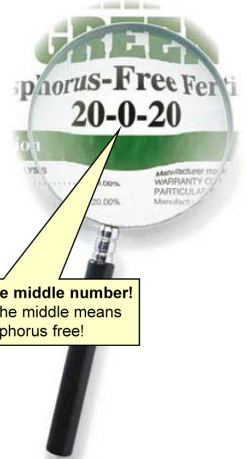
10 Ways To Protect Silver Lake

Compliments of the Silver Lake Improvement Board

1. Effective this past January, it's the law: Don't use lawn fertilizer that contains phosphorus. If you use a professional lawn care service, insist upon a fertilizer that does not contain phosphorus. (Phosphorus is the nutrient that most often stimulates excessive plant growth in lakes.)
2. Use the minimum amount of fertilizer recommended on the label — more is not necessarily better!
3. Water your lawn sparingly to avoid washing nutrients and sediments into the lake.
4. Don't feed ducks and geese near the lake. Waterfowl droppings are high in nutrients and may cause swimmer's itch.
5. Don't burn leaves and grass clippings near the shoreline. Nutrients concentrate in the ash and can easily wash into the lake.
6. Don't mow to the water's edge. Instead, allow a strip of natural vegetation (i.e., a greenbelt) to become established along your waterfront. A greenbelt will trap pollutants and discourage nuisance geese from frequenting your property.
7. Where possible, promote infiltration of stormwater into the ground. Build a rain garden to capture runoff from driveways and downspouts.
8. Don't dump anything in area wetlands. Wetlands are natural purifiers.
9. Have your septic tank pumped every 2 to 3 years.
10. Find out more! Visit www.michiganlakeinfo.com



Minimize lawn area. Less turf means less fertilizer, less pesticides—and less mowing!
It's better for the lake and easier on you.



On the Web

To find out more about what you can do, visit:

www.raingardens.org
www.mishorelinepartnership.org



Lawn

Greenbelt

Beach

Establish a greenbelt along your waterfront. A greenbelt will trap pollutants, provide wildlife habitat, and help prevent shoreline erosion.